

Creation

Why the matter of creation should be important to you

Psalm 33.6–9

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Song Leader and Song Suggestions: Larry Amberg – Anything magnifying creation

Prelude:

I. How did we get here?

A. I know of only two options:

1. We came into being by naturalistic forces, or
2. Someone beyond the natural realm put us here.

B. Could it be that a superior life form brought us here from another planet?

1. That only moves the question of our origin to another planet.
2. How did that superior life form get on that other planet?
 - a) It came into being by naturalistic forces, or
 - b) Someone beyond the natural realm put it there.

II. Ultimately, we have to say

A. that we came from something

B. that has always existed.

1. Whatever it is,
2. it has always been and always will be.

III. It has to be something

A. natural or

B. supernatural, or rather supra-natural.

1. My pondering over the years has led me to conclude
2. that Someone outside of nature
 - a) made nature, and
 - b) made us.

IV. Then when I read the Bible,

- A. I see a perfect match between the two,
- B. revealing to me
 - 1. that the same God who made nature,
 - 2. also gave us the Bible.

Persuasion:

I. The Fact of Creation

A. Declared by Scripture

3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were *not made of things which are visible* (Heb 11.3).

- 1. This passage declares the miracle of all miracles.
 - a) This is creation *ex nihilo*, which Latin for “out of nothing.”
 - b) God did not need an ingredients or parts list.
- 2. Psalm 33 teaches creation *ex nihilo* by *divine fiat*,

6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.
7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap;
He lays up the deep in storehouses.
8 Let all the earth fear the LORD;
Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.
9 For He spoke, and it was done;
He commanded, and it stood fast.
(Psa 33.6–9)

- 3. Genesis 1 and 2 shows precisely what God did.
 - a) God spoke and things were.
 - b) Genesis 1.3 in a short simple sentence reveals unimaginable power,

3 Then God *said*, “Let there *be* light”; *and there was light* (Gen 1.3)

c) Genesis 1.9 shows another presentation of the omnipotence of God,

9 Then God *said*, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear”; *and it was so* (Gen 1.9).

B. Declared by Nature

1. How do I know those passages declare the truth?

2. Years ago, I read some passages from the Bible

d) that explained the experience I had been having all my life,

e) even before I made a serious examination of the Bible,

19 ...what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse... (Rom 1.19–20).

17 “Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness” (Acts 14.17).

(1) I would not have articulated it that way, because

(2) I did not know how to express myself then.

3. However, when I read those passages,

a) I knew that the source behind the Bible

b) knew how I was thinking.

4. Romans 1 confirmed my thoughts

a) that fantastic power and incredible intelligence

- b) brought a perfect environment into existence in which I could live.
- 5. Acts 14 showed
 - a) that this environment works to provide me with all the things I need.
 - b) The passage showed
 - (1) that the nutritional needs of my body
 - (2) are met or fulfilled perfectly by my environment.
 - (a) There is no way for that to be a coincidence.
 - (b) It was very intentional.

II. Why the Doctrine of Creation Should Be Important to You

- A. It prepares us for our meeting with Him. (Which I will address more later.)
- B. It fulfills our purpose to praise, honor, and worship.
 - 1. We have been made to give praise endlessly,
 - 2. not to receive it endlessly.
 - a) My proof of that are the lives of celebrities.
 - b) When they receive endless praise, and even things close to worship,
 - (1) it ruins them,
 - (2) just as it does children.
 - (a) That is not license never to praise someone, because
 - (b) we need it from time to time, but not endlessly.
 - 3. For the *most* part,
 - a) we are praise-*giving* organisms,
 - b) not praise-*receiving* organisms.
 - 4. Revelation 4 shows the purpose of heavenly and earthly creatures,

8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:

“Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God Almighty,
Who was and is and is to come!”

9 Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

II “You are worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory and honor and power;
For You created all things,
And by Your will they exist and were created.”

(Rev 4.8–11)

C. It helps us to understand His power.

1. He created
 - a) out of nothing
 - b) by the mere command of His word!
2. Can He work in my life?
 - a) Yes, but that does not mean things will always happen as I wish.
 - (1) That does not mean He does not work.
 - (2) It means He who knows how to run my life.
 - b) God allows things to be as they are for some purpose.
3. In Proverbs 3, Solomon spoke of the virtues of wisdom, saying
 - a) v. 13 that you are happy when you find it,
 - b) vv. 14–15 that its value surpasses precious metals and gems,
 - c) vv. 16–18 that it gives long life, pleasantness, and peace,
 - (1) then in verses 19 and 20,

(2) Solomon made this amazing revelation,

19 The Lord by wisdom founded the earth;
By understanding He established the heavens;
20 By His knowledge the depths were broken up,
And clouds drop down the dew.
(Pro 3.19–20)

(a) One of the very tools the Creator used for creating,

(b) we can also possess, though not to the degree that He does.

D. It helps us to understand His right to our obedience.

1. Second Kings 5 shows a man who did not understand this initially.

2. Do we think there is something wrong with a command of God?

a) The problem is not the command, nor

b) is it God.

(1) The problem is

(2) that we have not yet understood the Creatorship of God.

(a) When someone challenged the man in Second Kings 5

(b) at least to try what God said to do,

i) the man discovered that it worked.

ii) Likewise, even if you are not yet persuaded

(1) that you have been created,

(2) try to obey God's commands and see what happens.

E. It helps us to understand His right to our worship.

1. God commanding us to worship Him

a) is as healthy as parents

b) teaching their children to be thankful.

2. Psalm 29 speaks of His right to our worship,
 - 1 Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones,
Give unto the LORD glory and strength.
 - 2 Give unto the LORD the glory *due* to His name;
Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
(Psa 29.1–2)

- a) Worship Him because:
 - (1) vv. 3–4 His voice controls the waters
 - (2) vv. 5–7 His voice splits cedars and fire
 - (3) vv. 8–9 His voice shakes creation
 - (4) vv. 10–11 As King He strengthens and blesses

- b) If what I have said is true,
 - (1) we want to worship Him, and
 - (2) we feel empty when we do not.

III. Our Creation Seminar

- A. Yes, it will take some of your time on
 1. Friday night,
 2. late Saturday afternoon and evening, and
 3. Sunday.
 - a) In light of what I just showed you,
 - b) do you think it is worth it?

- B. What are your questions? Or what do other ask?
 1. Does God exist?
 2. What about evolution?
 3. Was Darwin right?
 4. How can a loving God allow suffering and death?

5. What about the age of the Earth?
6. Do dating methods prove the Earth is millions of years old?
7. Who was Cain's wife? Or Where did Cain get his wife?
8. How did Noah fit all the animals on the ark?
9. Was there really a world wide flood?
10. Does any real scientist believe in creation?
11. Are there really missing links?
12. Can't a day mean millions of years?
13. What about natural selection?
14. Where did the races come from?
15. What about distant starlight?
16. Are UFOs real?
17. Did God use evolution?
18. What about the similarities between monkey and human DNA?
19. What about the ice age?
20. Were Adam and Eve real people?
21. Who cares what I believe about origins?
22. Don't fossils take many millions of years to form?
23. What about dinosaurs?

C. Either come

1. to learn the answers to those questions, or
2. to learn how to answer those questions people have.

D. Brother Don Patton cannot possibly deal with all those things, but

1. I know that he will deal with some of them.
2. If it is advantageous, I will deal with the ones he does not.

Exhortation:

I. Since God created you,

A. you will meet Him one day

B. on the Day we call the Day of Judgment.

1. As our Creator,
2. He will want an accounting of how we lived our lives.
 - a) After all, He must have made us for a purpose.
 - b) The question will be: Have we lived our lives fulfilling that purpose?

II. It comes down to this:

A. If we have *not* been created,

“Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!” (1Co 15.32).

B. If we *have been* created,

1. let us pray and obey, for
2. tomorrow we meet our Creator,

31 “...because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead” (Acts 17.31).

III. Our Creator will bring us to that Judgment Day, and

A. He will use the Man whom He has ordained to do the judging.

B. That Man is Jesus Christ.

1. We know this event will happen, because
2. God raised Jesus Christ from the dead, and
 - a) now He sits at the right hand of God,
 - b) waiting for the time of Judgment.

IV. Are you prepared for that event?

A. I know that sounds scary, but

B. it does not have to be.

1. For this reason, Jesus of Nazareth came to the Earth, and
2. showed us how to prepare for that event.
 - a) Do your best to live by His teaching, and
 - b) He will see your heart and
 - (1) give you the grace you need to make it.
 - (2) Resist such instruction, and yes, it is very scary.